Anti-Slavery Office,
New York, 1 March, 1864.

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My Dear Garrison,

I know you will be anxious to hear what sort of reception Mr. Thompson had last night in New York, and therefore I snatch a moment from pressing duties to write you a hurried line. In spite of some mistakes in the arrangements, it was a grand occasion. The audience, though not as large as we hoped, was of the very best sort — full of enthusiasm. Fremont's speech, as you will see, was excel-

last, and contained a fine tribute to the Abolitionists of this country. He was cheered throughout, and at this point especially. Mr. Thompson was warmly welcomed, and his speech was very fine, giving great satisfaction and delight to the audience. You know I did not even see him on his first visit to the country, and that in 1850 I saw without hearing him. I cannot, therefore, compare his effort last night with his speeches in former years; but I will say that he more than met my highest anticipations. I have not for twenty years been so charmed and de-

lighted by any speaker. In matter and manner the Poem seemed to me perfect, and it ~~would~~ won the perfect sympathy and kindled the highest enthusiasm of the audience. Dr. Tyng came out splendidly at the close, and Tilton uttered a few fit words."

The managers made some mistakes, viz: 1. In not basing the reception, as you did in Boston, upon a public requisition, signed by eminent names; 2d. in not advertising it half enough, and in the failure to secure proper notices in the daily press. They ~~brought~~ had Fremont's name

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would, of itself, fill the house at any price. 2d. They ought to have organized more completely, with Vice Presidents and Secretaries, and passed resolutions. If they had taken proper pains to fill the house, the high price of tickets would have been no objection; but as it was, 25 cents would have been better.

But in spite of all drawbacks it was a success, and we are all happy to-day.

I shall print the report this week.

In great haste,

Yours, faithfully,

Oliver Johnson